



THE

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1937,

UPON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

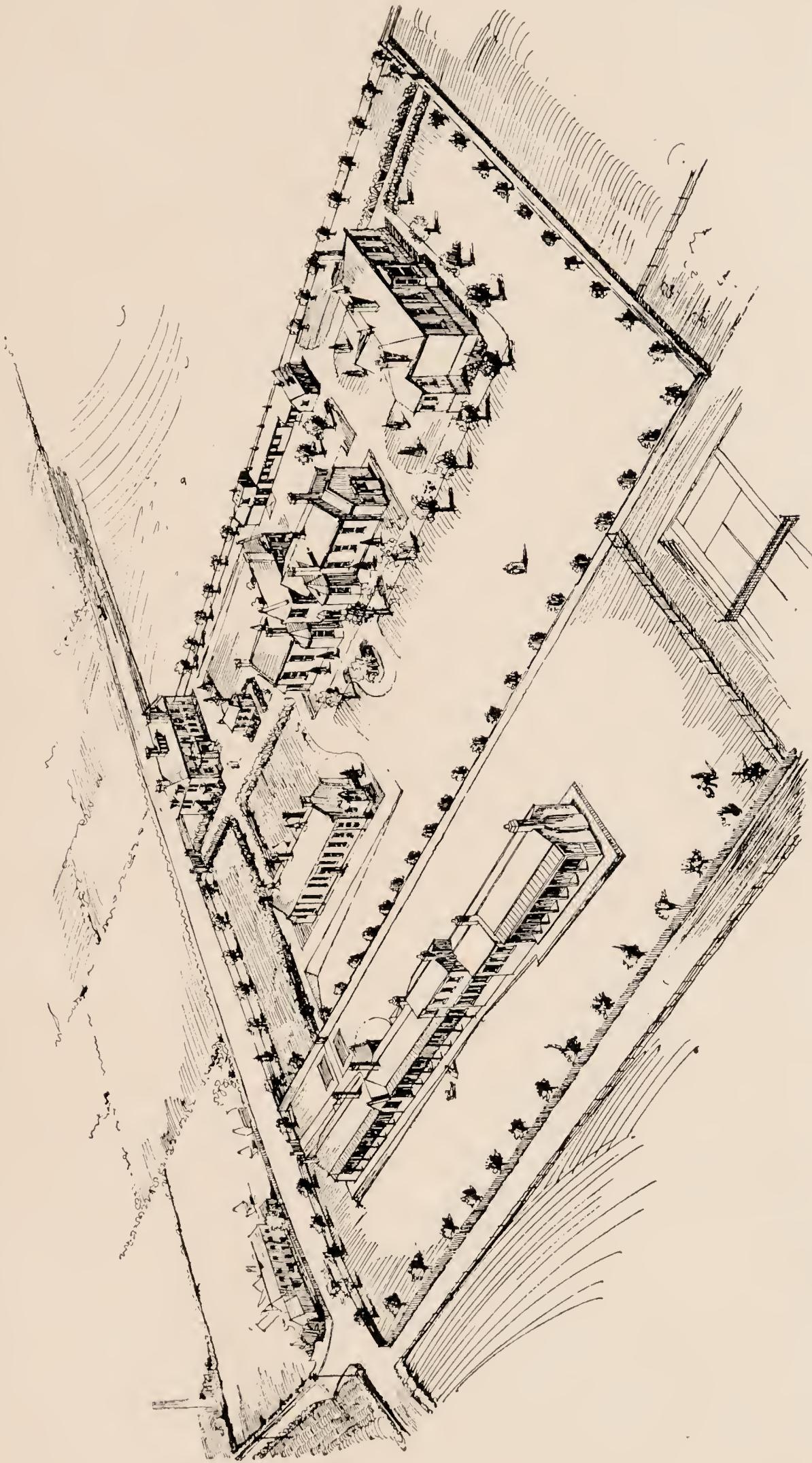
Sunderland Rural District.

J. M. SHAW, M.B.

Medical Officer of Health.

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General I
Form 26*

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND SANATORIUM.



HYLTON ROAD,
FORD,
SUNDERLAND

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SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR W. T. LUMLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. W. THOMPSON, J.P.

Coun. H. E. BAINBRIDGE.

„ T. EMMERSON.

„ W. EMMERSON.

„ R. FAWCETT.

„ M. J. FORREST.

„ W. J. GOUNDRY.

„ R. HEWITT.

Coun. E. W. LAWSON.

„ A. LILLEY.

„ J. E. LINDLEY.

„ F. ORR.

„ Mrs. M. ORR.

„ R. SMITH.

„ A. WEIGHTMAN.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

1 THE ESPLANADE,

SUNDERLAND.

OFFICIALS.

Medical Officer of Health: J. M. SHAW, M.B.

Sanitary Inspector, etc.: ERNEST HITCHEN, Cert. San. Inst., R.P.C.

Assistant Inspector: J. T. CUTIBERTSON.

Clerk to Health Department: Miss C. V. CORY.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent: DR. J. M. SHAW, M.B.

Matron: Miss I. C. THOMPSON.

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNDERLAND.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit for your consideration my Fourth Annual Report, that for the year 1937, on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Rural District of Sunderland.

During the year, owing to the review of County Districts, the Parishes of East & Middle Herrington, West Herrington, Offerton and part of Silksworth were added to your district. This increased the area by 3,204 acres and the population by 3,555.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. SHAW, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health,

May, 1938.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Division of the District.

The Sunderland Rural District is comprised of Eight Parishes, viz.:—Ford, East and Middle Herrington, West Herrington, Hylton, Offerton, Ryhope, Silksworth and Tunstall.

Area and Population.

The Area of the District is 8,286 acres.

The estimated population for the year 1937 is 25,932.

TABLE A.

Giving the Acreage, and the Estimated Population, mid-year, 1937.

PARISH.	Acreage.	Estimated Population mid-year 1937.
Ford	590	3087
East and Middle Herrington	1064	1220
West Herrington	398	140
Hylton	2211	3077
Offerton	956	289
Ryhope	1131	10067
Silksworth	1297	1906
Tunstall	639	6146
Whole District	8286	25932

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Geological Formation.

The geology of your district is uniform in character. The surface is capped by boulder clay of varying depths. Below this is a thick mass of magnesian limestone, or dolomite, which in places crops out to the surface. This geological formation is fairly uniform, excepting for a pocket of sand here and there of so small dimensions as to have little effect on ground formation. The bed of the river Wear, which runs through the district, is fringed by alluvial deposits, due to the action of the river itself. The limestone contains the underground reservoirs from which the district obtains its water supply. The ground is undulating, and becomes hilly in the vicinity of Tunstall, Ford, and Offerton.

Occupations.

About three-fifths of the male population in your district are engaged in the work of coal mining, the remaining portion being employees in the work of shipbuilding, forge works, iron foundaries, paper making, lime quarries, farming and agricultural work.

Industries.

Particulars as to staple industries in the District.

FORD	...	...	Paper Making. Forge Works. Iron Foundaries and Engineering.
HYLTON	...	...	Coal Mining.
RYHOPE	...	...	Coal Mining.
SILKSWORTH	...	...	Coal Mining.
TUNSTALL	...	...	Coal Mining.

Particulars of any anticipated industrial development.

FORD	Lime Quarrying.
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Amount of Poor Law Relief.

For the year ending 31st December, 1937.

					£	s.	d.
Ford	5,348	7	3
Hylton	...	...	...	...	2,392	18	0
Ryhope	...	...	...	...	9,557	1	0
Tunstall and Silksworth				...	9,843	5	6
West Herrington			...	...	8	16	6
Offerton	...	...	...	...	96	11	9

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the whole district is £92,466.

Sum represented by penny rate £385.

TABLE I.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1937.
AND THE FOUR PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population Estimated to Middle of each Year	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.	
		Nett.							
		Un- corrected Number.	Rate.	Number	Rate.	of Non- residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.	Number.	At all Ages.
1933	22,377	402	17.9	203	9.2	36	55	40	99
1934	22,377	358	15.9	189	8.4	46	60	35	97
1935	22,377	350	15.6	174	7.7	40	56	23	65
1936	22,377	334	14.9	176	7.9	41	65	19	56
1937	25,932	393	15.1	190	7.3	57	103	35	89
								263	117
								249	111
								230	102
								241	108
								293	113

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 8,286.

I.—Institutions within the District receiving infectious cases from the District—Sunderland Rural District Isolation Hospital, Ford.

II.—Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Highfield Institution, Sunderland; Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital; Durham County Asylum, Sedgefield; Sunderland Children's Hospital; Sunderland Royal Infirmary; "High Barnes Home," High Barnes Home, "Mowbray Maternity Home"; Mowbray Maternity Home.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

During the year there were 393 births registered as compared with 334 last year, the birth-rate being 15·1 per thousand of the estimated population of the district. Six births were registered as illegitimate, as compared with Five for the year 1936.

TABLE B.

Showing the number of Births (Male and Female) and the Birth-rate for the past five years.

Year	Males	Females	Birth-rate
1933	201	201	17·9
1934	210	148	15·9
1935	167	183	15·6
1936	163	171	14·9
1937	203	190	15·1

TABLE C.

Birth-rate in each Parish.

Parish.	Males.	Females.	Birth-rate.
Ford	28	28	18·14
Herrington, East and Middle ..	5	5	8·19
Herrington, West	1	—	7·1
Hylton	31	28	19·17
Offerton	2	3	17·3
Ryhope	85	79	16·3
Silksworth	13	11	12·6
Tunstall	38	36	12·04
Whole District	203	190	15·1

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered as having occurred within your district during the year 1937 was 190, comprising 85 males and 105 females, which gives the annual mortality-rate of 7·3 per thousand of the population.

One hundred and three deaths of persons belonging to the district occurred outside the district. This increases the total number to 293, the corrected death-rate being 11·3 per thousand of the population.

TABLE D.

*Number of Deaths, and the Death-rate of each Parish
for the year 1937.*

PARISHES.	Number of Deaths.	Deaths outside of District but belonging to it	Total	Death-rate
Ford ...	26	25	51	16·5
Herrington, E. & M.	5	6	11	9·
Herrington West ...	1	1	2	14·2
Hylton ...	28	15	43	13·9
Offerton ...	3	1	4	13·8
Ryhope ...	71	25	96	9·5
Silksworth ...	14	6	20	10·5
Tunstall ...	42	24	66	10·7
Whole District...	190	103	293	11·3

TABLE E.

Age at which death occurred in each Parish.

Parish.	At Ages—Years.								Total
	Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 up- wards	
Ford ...	7	..	..	1	..	5	15	23	51
H'gton. E. & M.	1	1	1	1	..	2	..	5	11
Herrington W.	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Hylton ...	8	1	1	..	1	7	5	26	43
Offerton ...	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4
Ryhope ...	10	4	2	3	4	17	19	37	96
Silksworth ..	2	2	..	1	1	1	5	8	20
Tunstall ...	4	1	3	..	4	2	19	33	66
Totals...	35	9	7	6	10	35	64	127	293

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Thirty-five deaths were registered of children under one year of age (15 males and 20 females). This gives an Infantile Mortality-rate of 89 per thousand births.

Infantile Mortality-rates for the past ten years.

Year	Rate	Year	Rate
1928	88	1933	99
1929	122	1934	97
1930	78	1935	65
1931	84	1936	56
1932	76	1937	89

Still-births.

Number of Still-births registered in the District, as supplied by the Registrar General :—

LEGITIMATE 7 Males.

 14 Females.

ILLEGITIMATE — Males.

 — Females.

Total : 7 Males, 14 Females.

TABLE IV.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
INFANT MORTALITY.

1937. *Nett Deaths from stated causes at various
Ages under 1 year.*

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES—										
Certified	8	4	1	...	13	7	5	3	2	30
Uncertified	4	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	5
Common Infectious Diseases—										
Smallpox										
Chickenpox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Diphtheria and Croup ...										
Whooping Cough ...										
Diarrhoeal Diseases—										
Diarrhoea		1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Enteritis ... ...		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Tuberculosis Diseases—										
Tuberculous Meningitis ...										
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Wasting Diseases—										
Congenital Malformations..	2	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	4
Premature Birth ...	5	2	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	7
Atrophy, Debility ...	3	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	4
Marasmus ... ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes—										
Atelectasis										
Injury at Birth										
Erysipelas										
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...										
Convulsions										
Gastritis										
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis										
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	1	5
Influenza ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	...	6
Suffocation, overlaying ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Other causes	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
TOTALS...	12	4	1	...	17	8	5	3	2	35

Nett Births in the year—Legitimate Infants, 387; Illegitimate, 6.

Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate, 34; Illegitimate Infants, 1.

TABLE II.

SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The following measures are taken in the Sunderland Rural District to check the spread of Infectious Diseases:—

1. Adoption of Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.
2. Every case is immediately visited after notification and arrangements made to have the case removed to the Rural District Isolation Hospital at once if it is found that suitable isolation cannot be provided at home, either on account of want of room or a large family in the house. If isolated at home, verbal and printed instructions are given as to the best method of isolation and disinfectants supplied for use in the bedroom. The cases isolated at home are re-visited to see that proper isolation is carried out.
3. A complete history of the case is taken in writing at the time of the first visit, and all enquiries made as to probable source of infection such as contact cases, milk supply, and any other causes.
4. In every case where the patient is removed to Hospital the room and its contents are immediately disinfected, the bed and clothing being taken to the Hospital for that purpose.

Antitoxin is supplied free by the Rural District Council to all cases of Diphtheria, a supply being kept for the use of Practitioners in the District.

All patients to the Isolation Hospital are removed under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, the patients being in the charge of a trained nurse during course of removal.

A Motor Ambulance is used for the removal of the patient and the bedding.

Posters and handbills containing advice and instructions are distributed in your district when necessary.

Diphtheria.

During the twelve months, sixty-six cases of Diphtheria were notified compared with one hundred and forty for the year 1936.

TABLE H.
Parishes affected and the ages of Diphtheria Cases reported.

Parish.	Cases removed to Hospital										TOTAL 63 and over 45-65	
	1-0	1-2	2-3	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65
Ford	1	4	3				8	8	
Herrington, East & Middle	1		1	2		1		4	3	
Herrington West					2	1		1	1	
Hylton					2			5	5	
Offerton							2			
Ryhope						2				
Silksworth										
Tunstall										
Whole District	...	1	3	3	2	23	20	9	3	2	66	65

Scarlet Fever.

Eighty-two cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, compared with one hundred and forty-three for 1936. Of these, seventy-five cases were removed for treatment at your Hospital.

TABLE I.
Parishes affected and the ages of the Scarlet Fever cases reported.

Parish.	Cases Removed to Hospital										Total	Cases Removed to Hospital
	65 and over	45-65	35-45	20-35	15-20	10-15	5-10	2-5	1-2	0		
Ford	1	1	10	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	14	14
Herrington, East &	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2
Middle ...	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Herrington West	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	6	6	6
Hylton	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	41	39
Offerton	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	6	6	3
Ryhope	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	12	12	12
Silksworth	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	3
Tunstall	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	3
Whole District ...	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	... ... ... ...	82	77

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There were no cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis notified during the year.

Enteric Fever.

There were no cases of Enteric Fever notified during the year.

Erysipelas.

Thirty cases were notified during the year, as compared with fifteen cases for 1936. The cases were distributed as follows:—Ford, 3; Hylton, 7; Ryhope, 11; Tunstall, 7; Offer-ton, 1; Silksworth, 1.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Nine notifications have been received during the year.

Pneumonia.

There have been ninety notifications of this disease during the year.

Smallpox.

There were no cases of Smallpox notified during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.

The Bacteriological Examination of Drinking Water to test for the purity of same, of Milk for Tubercl Bacilli, of Swabs for Diphtheria, of Blood from patients suspected to be suffering from Enteric Fever (Grubler Widal Reaction), of Sputum in suspected cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs, are supervised and under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health of the County of Durham.

EXAMINATION OF SPUTUM IN SUSPECTED CASES OF
CONSUMPTION.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals
Tubercle Bacilli found ...	3	7	2	1	13
Tubercle Bacilli not found ...	13	17	19	14	63
Totals ...	16	24	21	15	76

EXAMINATION OF SWABS FOR
DIPHTHERIA.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals
Diphtheria Bacilli found ...	17	14	12	6	49
Diphtheria Bacilli not found ...	23	25	23	22	93
Totals ...	40	39	35	28	142

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

There were twenty-seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year, compared with twelve for the previous year.

Eighteen deaths were registered as being due to the disease.

TABLE K.
*Showing the ages and the distribution of the cases of Pulmonary
Tuberculosis notified.*

Parish.	Ages—Years.									Total over		
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	
Ford ...	1									2		6
Herrington, East &												3
Middle ...												2
Herrington West ...							1					10
Hylton ...												6
Offerton ...												
Ryhope ...												
Silksworth ...												
Tunstall ...												
Totals ...										13	3	27
										1		

TABLE L.

Showing the ages at which death occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in each Parish.

Parish.	Ages—Years.							Total
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and Upwards	
Ford	...				1			1
Herrington, East &								
Middle	...							
Herrington West	...							
Hylton	...				2			2
Offerton	...				1			1
Ryhope	...		1	1	4	3		9
Silksworth	...				1			1
Tunstall	...			2	1	1		4
Totals			1	3	10	4		18

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE M.

Showing the Parishes from which the cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, and the ages of the patients.

TABLE N.
Showing the distribution of the various cases of Non-Pulmonary Lesions in the several Parishes.

Parish	LESIONS.						Totals.
	Abdominal.	Bones and Joints.	Glands.	Meninges.	Skin.	Larynx.	
Ford					1		1
Herrington, East & Middle							
Herrington West ...			1				1
Hylton		3	4	1			9
Offerton			1				2
Ryhope	1		2				4
Silksworth							
Tunstall	2		2				
Totals	3	3	8	2	1		17

Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

TABLE O.
Age at which death occurred, and the Parish in which deceased persons resided.

Parish.	Ages—Years.							Total
	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	
Ford								
Herrington, East & Middle					1			1
Herrington West ...				1				1
Hylton				1				1
Offerton								1
Ryhope			1					1
Silksworth			1					1
Tunstall				1				1
Totals			2	2	1			5

Inquests.

Twenty inquests were held during the year 1937 compared with twenty-six for the previous year.

Fatal Accidents and Suicides.

23

Parish.	Drowning.	Fatal Accidents.	Suicide.	Man-slaughter.	Total.
Ford					
Herrington, East & Middle		1			1
Herrington West ..		2	1		3
Hylton		6			6
Offerton		1			1
Ryhope		2	1		3
Silksworth					
Tunstall					
Totals ...		12	2		14

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1	2		4					
5			2	1				1
10		1	3	1			1	1
15			2	3				
20	4	2			2	1	1	1
25	2	5			2	4	1	
35	3		1		4			
45	2	1				1		
55	2	2			1	2		
65 and upwards ..	1							
TOTALS ...	16	11	12	5	9	9	3	2

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

There has been no case where it has been necessary to take action under these Regulations, as no Employee in the milk trade has been notified, or has been found to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

It has not been necessary to take any action under this Section.

TABLE III.
SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING
THE YEAR 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO THE WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
All Causes { Certified ...	262	29	7	6	5	6	30	61	118
	Uncertified ...	31	6	2	1	4	5	3	9
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	18	...	...	...	1	3	10	4	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	4	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ...	34	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	16
Rheumatic Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ...	68	...	...	1	...	1	3	13	50
Bronchitis ...	18	6	3	...	...	...	...	4	5
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	24	5	1	3	...	...	2	9	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	7	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease ...	19	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	8
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	19	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	12	...	1	1	1	3	3	2	1
Suicide ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Other Defined Diseases ...	23	...	1	...	...	...	4	4	14
Venereal Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	20
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Totals ...	293	35	9	7	6	10	35	64	127

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Accommodation = 67 beds.

Scarlet Fever Pavilion	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria Pavilion	...	...	...	10
Tuberculosis Pavilions	...	...	...	39
Observation Ward	...	...	...	2

One hundred and thirty-six cases have been admitted into Hospital from your district during the year 1937; the following table shows the number of admissions of each disease:—

Disease	Patients in Hospital on 31st Dec., 1936.	Patients Admitted During '1937.	Patients in the Hospital on 31st Dec., 1937.
Scarlet Fever	...	9	75
Diphtheria	...	7	69
Enteric Fever
Observation
Totals	16	144	15

Eight cases of Diphtheria were admitted from Seaham Harbour.

*Table showing the age and sex of Scarlet Fever patients admitted into Hospital:—
AGES—YEARS.*

		RECOVERED					DIED					TOTALS				
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
RECOVERED—	Males	1	2	2	1	15	4	1	3	3	1	33				
	Females	..	..	2	2	21	6	6			2					41
DIED—	Males	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Females	..	..	..	..	1										
	TOTALS	..	1	4	4	36	10	7	3	3	3					75

*Table showing the age and sex of Diphtheria patients admitted into Hospital:—
AGES—YEARS.*

		RECOVERED					DIED					TOTALS				
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
RECOVERED—	Males	1*	2	2	1	1*	8	3	2							
	Females	..	..	1	1	11	1*	1*	4	4	2	3				
DIED—	Males	..	..	..	..	1*	2*	1								
	Females	..	..	..	..							
	TOTALS	..	1	3	3	2	24	17	8	6	2	3				69

*Cases from other Districts.

Tuberculosis Pavilion.

The accommodation for cases of Tuberculosis consists of 39 beds. There were 38 patients under treatment on 1st January, 1937, and during the year 96 have been admitted.

The following table shows the ages of the patients admitted:—

15 years and under 25 years	29
25 , , , , 45 , 	58
45 , , , , 65 , 	9
	—
TOTAL 	96
	—

Tuberculosis.

The Durham County Council has provided Sanatoria in different parts of the North for the treatment of this disease, and the health of the inhabitants in your District suffering from Tubercular disease is supervised by the above Council.

The Ministry of Health, in November, 1920, instructed Local Authorities to make provision for the treatment of Tuberculosis, other than insured persons, and under this scheme the County Council is now providing for the accommodation of the following:—

1. Observation cases.
2. Early cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
3. Surgical cases.
4. Advanced cases which are incurable and a source of infection to other people.

The County Council provides for the treatment of the disease in both adult and child life.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The residents in the Sunderland Rural District can receive medical and surgical treatment at the following Infirmaries and Hospitals:—

FEVER CASES.—Sunderland Rural District Isolation Hospital.

SMALLPOX.—Whiteleas. This is a Hospital for the treatment of this disease used conjointly by your district, and contains 40 beds.

GENERAL DISEASES, URGENT CASES AND ACCIDENTS.

The Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 500 beds, and out-patient department.

The Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, 292 beds, and out-patient department.

The Children's Hospital, Sunderland, 66 beds, and out-patient department.

Monkwearmouth and Southwick Hospital, 120 beds and out-patient department.

The Eye Infirmary, Sunderland, 33 beds, and out-patient department.

Heatherdene Convalescent Home.

The miners, who compose the greater part of the population in your District, pay a weekly subscription to the above Infirmaries and Hospitals. Other residents, such as those working at the Ford Paper works and living at Hylton, likewise subscribe to the various Institutions.

Sunderland Municipal Hospital receives medical and surgical cases. 437 beds.

Durham County Mental Hospital, Sedgefield.

The "High Barnes Home," Sunderland, receives aged people from your District.

The Mowbray Maternity Home receives midwifery cases by arrangement.

Accommodation for Post Mortem Examinations.

In Agreement with H.M. Coroners of the District, arrangements have been made with the Governing Body of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary for the use of their Post Mortem Room, Instruments, &c., at a charge of two guineas per case.

Notification of Births Act and Midwives Act.

Venereal Diseases and Ophthalmia Neonatorum Acts.

These Acts are administered by the Durham County Council.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The working of this Act is carried out under the direction of the Durham County Council.

Meat Inspection.

There are seven Licensed Slaughter-houses in the district, which are regularly inspected each week throughout the year. 6 inspections were made of carcases of pigs killed in places other than Licensed Slaughter-houses, also 98 inspections have been made of Fish, Fruit, and Provision Shops.

Thirteen carcases of Cows and other beasts found to be affected with Tuberculosis were condemned as unfit for human food, and afterwards destroyed.

Milk Supply.

Regular inspections have been made as to the Sanitary condition of the various cowsheds, dairies and milkshops in your District during the past year. Eight Notices were served upon the Farmers to remedy defects found to exist during the course of our inspection. On the whole, the cowsheds, dairies and milkshops were found to be satisfactory.

There are 35 Registered Wholesale Milk Producers and 14 Registered Retail Milk Producers in your District, the number of dairy cows kept being 682. There are also 12 Registered Purveyors of Milk.

The report of the County Veterinary Officer upon the condition of the Dairies in the District is as follows:—

(1) Number of Visits to Cowkeepers.....	79
(2) Number of Cows Examined.....	1915
(3) General condition and type of Cows.....	Good.
(4) General cleanliness of Cows.....	Good.
(5) General conditions of sanitation.....	Good.
(6) Chief methods of Milk Disposal...Retail and Wholesale.	
(7) Number of Animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order:—	
(a) Tuberculosis of the Udder or giving T.B. Milk	8
(b) Other forms of Tuberculosis	4
	—
	12
(8) Number of cases of disease other than Tuberculosis (chiefly Mastitis)	46

General Observations.

The class of cow kept in this district is good and the standard of hygiene in the byres and dairies was good.

Six farms are now producing "Accredited" milk and five farms "T.T." milk.

Twelve cows were slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

Water Supply.

The water supplied to the District is of an exceptionally high degree of purity, and is one of the finest drinking waters in the country.

Chemical analysis shows that the water practically does not vary from year to year, whilst bacteriologically it is one of the highest quality.

Frequent and systematic examinations of the water from all the wells and reservoirs are made to ensure that the water actually supplied is free from any harmful matters.

With very few exceptions the inhabitants in the Sunderland Rural District obtain their water supply from Sunderland and South Shields Water Company's mains. This water is pumped from wells in the Magnesian Limestone at a depth of from 200 to 500 feet.

The following are the wells from which each Parish is supplied:—

RYHOPE.—Ryhope, Dalton and North Dalton Wells.

TUNSTALL AND SILKSWORTH.—Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon and North Dalton Wells.

FORD.—Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate and North Dalton Wells.

HYLTON (a)—(Hylton Village), Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate and North Dalton Wells.

HYLTON (b)—(Castleown Village), Seaton, Thorpe, Shotton, Burdon, Stonygate and North Dalton Wells.

EAST & MIDDLE HERRINGTON.—Supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Co. from their Stonygate Well, also several of the houses are supplied by the Lambton, Hetton and Joicey Colliery from their Pumping Station along Silksworth Lane.

WEST HERRINGTON.—The water to this village is by the Lambton, Hetton & Joicey Colliery Company, pumped from the Well in Silksworth Lane.

OFFERTON (a)—(Coxgreen Village).—The supply of water to this village is by means of a Windmill with pump, in field to the north-west of village, the water being forced through pipe to iron storage tanks situate near Offerton Hall, water being led from the storage tanks to houses in the village by gravitation.

OFFERTON (b)—(Coxgreen Village).—The only source of supply of water to this village is by means of the spring water from Alice Well, which is situated in an alcove on the Riverside Road, to the west end of the village. The Analyst's report shows that this water is of satisfactory organic purity and has not been subject to sewage pollution, it also contains a large amount of iron.

The wells of the Sunderland & South Shields Water Company are lined out to a considerable distance so as to exclude surface drainage.

Analytical results obtained in the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company's laboratories, averaging the figures obtained from the several wells, are as follows:—

Total Solids	47·56
Lime (Ca. O.)	12·01
Magnesia (Mg. O.)	6·83
Carbonic Anhydride (C.O.) ...	13·71
Sulphuric Anhydride (S.O.) ...	4·49
Free Ammonia...	0·0001
Albumenoid Ammonia	0·0004
Chlorine	4·41
Hardness	26·7 degrees.

Results are parts per 100,000. Hardness is in degrees (Clark).

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

The Sewers and Sewage Disposal of your area is in a good condition generally, as owing to the whole district being situate near the sea coast, and the land being at a good elevation above sea level, no great difficulty is ever experienced in obtaining effectual sewerage of any part of it by gravitation. Throughout the district the sewers invariably are laid under the back streets, between two rows or blocks of houses. In most of the Parishes the streets are laid in long straight lines, and such being the case the individual sewers run the whole length and connect with the main sewers, the latter being continued to the outfall at the sea coast, or are conducted into the river Wear, which river is tidal for many miles past your district. Manholes are provided along the line of sewers as a means of access for inspection; also at convenient points upright flushing pipes connected to the sewers are provided in order to afford a ready means of flushing. The ventilation of the sewers in many of the Parishes is by means of steel pipe ventilators carried to a height of about twenty-five feet, this method of sewer ventilation is of great value, as it prevents any nuisance from sewer gases which is often created by the old method of ventilating the sewers at street surface level.

At Ford, four separate sewers are provided for the village, the outfalls of each being direct into the river.

The Hylton district has two systems of sewers provided. The most important of the sewers takes all the drainage from the village of Castletown, and the other takes the drainage of most of the houses at North Hylton. Both sewers empty direct into the tidal river at convenient points.

The Ryhope system of sewers is carried out in three sections, the largest of them empties itself into the sea to the East of Ryhope Village, another takes the drainage of part of the Ryhope Colliery houses, which has its outfall at Salterfens.

The sewerage of Tunstall and Silksworth Parishes is by the sewers running North according to the natural fall of the land, and then joining the main sewer running direct East and connecting with the large main sewer belonging to Ryhope Parish, having its outfall at the sea coast.

Offerton and Coxgreen.—There is no system of sewers at Offerton, the drainage is by means of drains to cesspools.

At Coxgreen the whole of the houses are facing the river and there are about 8 individual drains leading across the riverside road and discharging into the river. There is no treatment of sewage in this Parish.

East, Middle and West Herrington.—The sewerage is by a 24 in. sewer which has been laid recently, the sewer runs into Herrington Burn and thence to Sedgeleetch where it is treated at the Houghton-le-Spring Urban District Council Sewage Disposal Works.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(1) (i) The number of houses found to be infested:—

(a) Council Houses	9
(b) Other Houses	5

(ii) Disinfested 14

(2) The methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs is by fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide and

Fumoids, the rooms being sealed for at least six hours. The house can then be opened out and the tenants can re-occupy the same night.

A visit is made after a month and if the first operation has not been successful, the house is then disinfested again.

This system has been found to be most satisfactory.

We have special movable Disinfestation Stations on each Housing Estate. Each hut contains three compartments for disinfecting belongings of tenants; these are used for the furniture, etc., of all tenants from Clearance Areas, and in other cases as may be necessary.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	Number of	
	Inspections	Written Notices.
Factories	6	...
Workshops	30	1
Workplaces	5	...
Total ...	1	1

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i> —		
Want of cleanliness	1	1
Want of ventilation	Nil.	Nil.
Overcrowding	"	"
Want of drainage of floors	"	"
Other nuisances	"	"
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	"	"
Unsuitable or defective	"	"
Total ...	1	1

Registered Workshops.

Retail Bakehouses	...	...	...	10
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	4
Tailor	...	...	...	1
Tripe Preparer	...	...	...	1
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	10
Milliners	...	...	...	2
Dressmakers	...	...	...	3
Butcher	...	...	...	1
Builders and Joiners	...	...	...	8
Motor Garage and Repair Shop	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	41	

HOUSING.

NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	246
(2) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(3) By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	64
					—
			Total	...	310

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (END OF 1937) ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS 6154

1 INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	963
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose...						1506
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	557
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose...						829
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	557
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	46

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	509
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

A.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs...	...	8
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
(a) by owners		8
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners.		Nil.

B.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ... ... ...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—		
(a) by owners		Nil.
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners.		Nil.

C.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	9
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D.—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ... ... ...	Nil.

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	263
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...		300
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...		1494½

(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ... ... ... ...	6
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (54 cases from Slum Clearance Areas)	... ... ... ... ... ...	139
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases...	719½	
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	... ... ...	Nil.
(e)	161 Overcrowding Cases will be dealt with in Slum Clearance Schemes which are not included in number given above. All overcrowding in Council Houses has been abated except two cases.		

HOUSING ACT, 1935.

During the year 1937 the following Clearance Areas have been dealt with, and Orders confirming the action by the Council have been made by the Ministry of Health.

FORD (No. 26) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 22, 23 and 24 High Street, South Hylton.

RYHOPE (No. 21) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 66 to 103 Ryhope Street North, and 68 to 120 Railway Street, Ryhope.

RYHOPE (No. 22) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 49 to 65 Ryhope Street; 50 to 78 Tunstall Street and 49 to 85 Burdon Street, Ryhope.

RYHOPE (No. 23) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 1 to 22 Queen Street; 1 to 22 Nicholson Street; 1 to 22 Lamb Street and 1 to 22 Bell Street, Ryhope.

RYHOPE (No. 24) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 23 to 100 Queen Street, Ryhope,

RYHOPE (No. 25) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 1 to 56 Cory Street, Ryhope.

RYHOPE (No. 27) CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising Nos. 1 to 48 Burdon Street; 1 to 49 Tunstall Street and 1 to 48 Ryhope Street, Ryhope.

WEST HERRINGTON VILLAGE CLEARANCE AREA.

Comprising 5 houses situate to the North-East of Shoulder of Mutton Inn, West Herrington Village.

BROWN'S COTTAGES—No. 1 CLEARANCE ORDER.

Comprising Three Cottages known as Brown's Cottages, East Herrington.

(Tenants: Goodwin, McDermott and Ferry.)

BROWN'S COTTAGES—No. 2 CLEARANCE ORDER.

Comprising Two Cottages known as Brown's Cottages, East Herrington.

(Tenants: Callaghan and Miller.)

PENSHAW (ALICE TERRACE, COXGREEN) CLEARANCE ORDER.

Comprising Nos. 2 to 6 Alice Terrace, Coxgreen.

OFFERTON (RED HOUSE, COXGREEN) CLEARANCE ORDER.

Comprising two Dwelling-houses known as Red House, Coxgreen, and one house known as Waterside, Coxgreen.

OFFERTON (WATERSIDE, COXGREEN) CLEARANCE ORDER.

Comprising Dwelling-house known as 35 Front Street, Coxgreen, and adjoining Tenement House known as Waterside, Coxgreen.

HOUSING—RURAL WORKERS ACT.

During the year 21 applications have been made for Grants under the Rural Workers Act, all of which have been accepted by the Council.

J. M. SHAW, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Summary of Notices served by the Sanitary Inspector under the Public Health Acts during the year 1937.

PARTICULARS.		Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Statutory Notices by Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses	Foul Conditions ...	6		6
and Schools ...	Structural Defects ...	221	6	213
	Overcrowding ...	1		1
Lodging Houses	... ... ...		
Dairies and Milkshops	... ... ...	3		3
Cowsheds	... ... ...	8		8
Bakehouses	... ... ...	1		1
Slaughterhouses	... ... ...	1		1
Ash-pits and Privies	... ... ...	66		64
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	... ... ...	8	2	10
Waterclosets	... ... ...	36		36
Defective Yard Paving	... ... ...	16		16
Houses	Defective Traps ...	5		5
Drainage	No Dis-connection ...	1		1
	Blocked Drains ...	11		11
Water Supply	... ... ...	6		6
Pigsties	... ... ...	1		1
Animals Improperly Kept	... ... ...	1		1
Offensive Trades	... ... ...		
Smoke Nuisances	... ... ...	1		1
Defective Roof Spouting	... ... ...	22		21
Dampness of House Walls	... ... ...	30		28
Defective Roofs	... ... ...	29		29
Bedrooms not properly Ventilated	... ...	7		7
Defective Rain-water Pipes	... ...	11		11
Other Nuisances	... ... ...	17		17
Totals		509	8	498

Nineteen notices not complied with on December 31st, 1937.

Removal of House Refuse.

The work of removal of house refuse during the past twelve months has been satisfactorily carried out, only four complaints were made of nuisances arising from the neglect in the work of cleansing the ash-pits, and in no case was it found to be of a serious nature; each complaint was immediately investigated, and steps taken to have the necessary work attended to as early as possible. Regular inspections are carried out by your Health Officers, who endeavour, as far as possible, to see that all ash-pits are emptied at least once each week. Disinfecting lime is supplied free to all your contractors for the purpose of disinfecting the receptacles after each cleansing. The total number of ash-pits or ash-bins in the district is 4,847. The whole of the ash-pits in your area are cleansed by contracts made between your Council and carting contractors.

Your Council are considering the question of scavenging by direct labour, which I am sure will be beneficial from a health point of view.

Conversion Scheme.

During the year the work in connection with the conversion of Privy Ash-pits and Ash-closets to Flush Water-closets has been completed in the Parishes of Ford, Hylton, Ryhope and Tunstall. The work was commenced in August, 1936, and completed on the 1st April, 1937, the total number of conversions carried out being 2,193.

A further conversion scheme for the Parish of Silksworth was commenced in April, 1937, and completed June, 1937, the number of conversions being 182.

Drainage and Sanitary Work.

During the past year the whole of the drainage of new buildings, and drains that have been taken up and relaid in connection with existing buildings, have been subjected to the hydraulic test; also all soil pipes, ventilating shafts, and sanitary fittings have been tested with the smoke testing apparatus. A total

number of 2,400 separate tests have been applied, and the following table shows the amount of drainage work that has been carried out in your district, all of which has been carefully examined and passed as satisfactory by your Health Officers:—

MONTH.		Water-closets.	Length of Drainage in feet.	Baths.	Gullies.	Interception Traps.
January	...	24	811	26	38	10
February	...	16	200	18	28	8
March	...	14	98	11	39	9
April	...	8	64	9	12	22
May	...	3	27	6	10	9
June	...	18	180	18	39	13
July	...	15	312	15	42	11
August	...	18	136	18	43	14
September	...	11	155	11	28	19
October	...	9	209	10	12	6
November	...	6	82	6	14	4
December	...	10	105	4	32	8
Totals	...	152	2379	152	337	133

Inspection of Districts.

All the Parishes in your district have been systematically inspected, each Parish being visited at least once each week throughout the year; in all cases where nuisances or defective conditions were found to exist, a verbal or written notice was given to the person or persons responsible for the abatement of the nuisance or the remedy of the defects. In all houses where cases of Infectious Disease had occurred, a thorough examination of all the sanitary fittings, drains, etc., was made, and, if any defects were found, immediate steps were taken to have the premises placed in a sanitary condition.

The following table shows the number of separate inspections made during the year, and the work involved:—

Inspection of Dwelling-house and Premises	...	1,650
Letters and Informal Notices issued	...	720
Statutory Notices by order of Authority	...	8
Nuisances remaining unabated Dec. 31st, 1937	...	19
Removals of cases of Infectious Disease to Hospital		143
Number of visits to cases of Infectious Disease	...	420

Water, Food and Drugs.

Samples of water taken for analysis	1
Samples of water condemned as unfit for use ...	0
Seizures of unwholesome food	13
Convictions for exposing or selling unwholesome food	0
Samples of food and drugs taken for analysis ...	5
Samples of food and drugs found adulterated ...	0

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of infected bedding stoved or destroyed ...	157
Houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	161
Schools disinfected after infectious disease ...	1
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons ...	0
Conviction for exposure of infected persons ...	0

List of Infected Articles Disinfected by the "Thresh" Steam Disinfecting Apparatus during 1937.

Quilts	30	Mattresses	40
Bolster	125	Sheets	62
Pillows	292	Blankets	186
Rugs	14	Beds	117
Cushions	20	Clothing	65
Bolster & Pillow Cases, ...	315	Sundries	82

General.

Number of new houses erected during the year ...	310
Number of such houses occupied during the year... ...	310
Ash-pit privies converted into ash-closets	5
Ash-pit privies converted into water-closets	26
Total number of water closets in the district ...	5,374
Total number of ash-closets in the district ...	669
Total number of ash-pit privies in the district ...	58

ERNEST HITCHEN,

Sanitary Inspector.

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